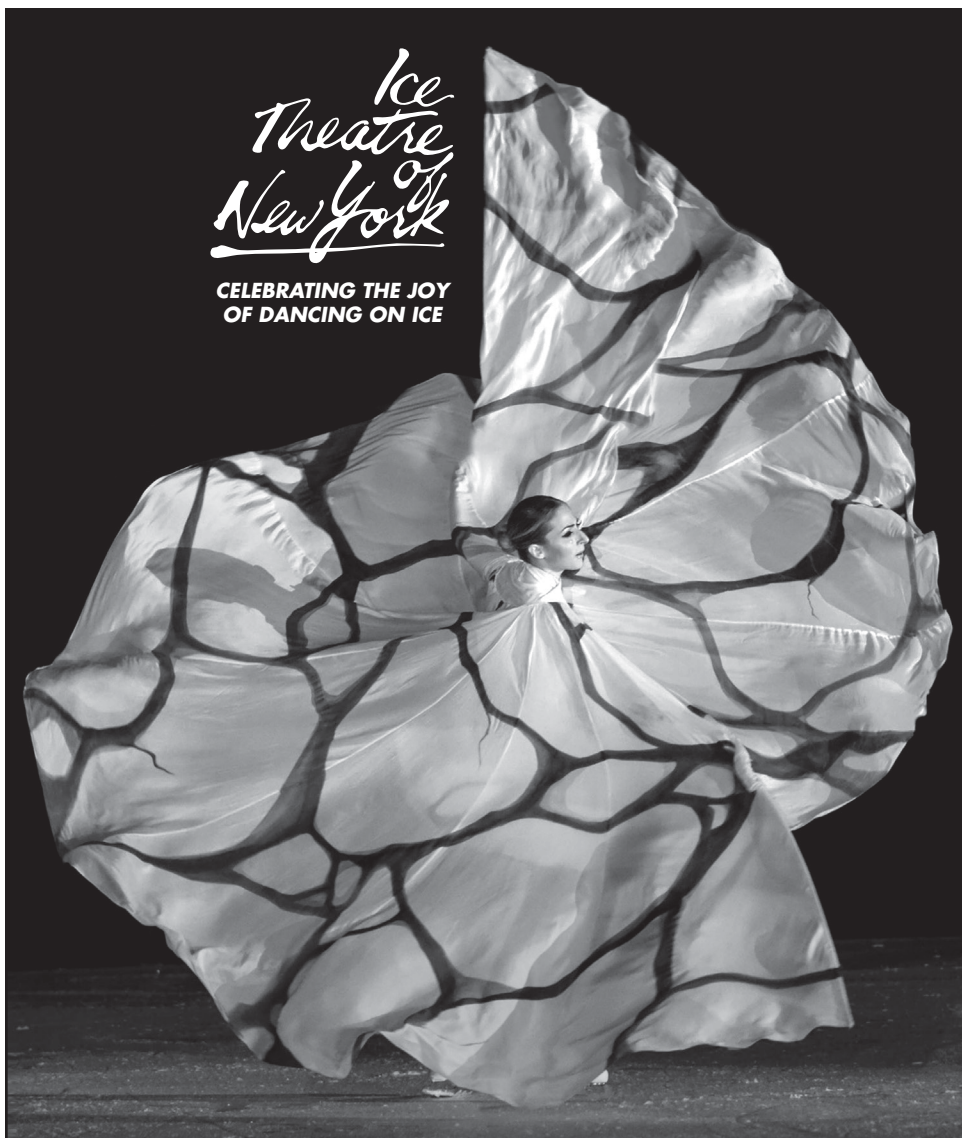


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Theatre
of
New York*

CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE



2018 HOME SEASON PERFORMANCES OCTOBER 12, 13 & 15

ICE THEATRE BENEFIT GALA • October 15, 2018

World & Olympic Champion **Kristi Yamaguchi**

Ice Angel Award **Violet Eagan**

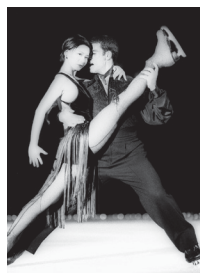
ITNY Alumni Awards **Stephanee Grosscup and Kenny Moir**



*Ice
Theatre
of
New York*

**CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE**

CONNECT WITH US



ABOUT THE COMPANY

ITNY's mission is to create and advance dance on ice as an ensemble performing art and to provide education and public performances to people of all ages. Founded by Moira North in 1984, Ice Theatre of New York created the first not-for-profit professional ice dance company in the U.S. and was the first to receive funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

- ITNY has created exclusive works by choreographers as varied as Edward Villela and Jody Sperling, modern dance choreographers Jacquelyn Buglisi, Elisa Monte and David Parsons, Performance Artist Ann Carlson and Emmy Award Winner Charles "Chuck" Klapow.
- ITNY trains company skaters and guest skating artists in its weekly Master Edge Classes at Chelsea Piers Sky Rink.
- We continue to collaborate with choreographers from both the dance and skating worlds, while exploring creatively exciting relationships with artists from theatre, music, and new media disciplines.
- ITNY is dedicated to making performances accessible to diverse audiences and presents many free performances featuring the current repertory throughout New York City.
- ITNY also achieves its public arts and education mission by:
- commissioning new choreography, with pieces created by recognized and emerging dance and ice skating choreographers;
- offering free admission to more than a dozen public performances each year;
- holding free Master Edge Classes led by ITNY dancers for ice skating professionals and enthusiasts; and
- offering apprentice/training programs for aspiring ice dance artists; and facilitating educational programs on ice dancing and figure skating for school-aged children in Brooklyn, Queens and Upper Manhattan.

62 Chelsea Piers, Suite 308, New York, NY 10011
(212) 929-5811 • itny@icetheatre.org • icetheatre.org



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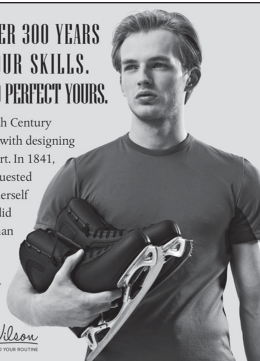
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HOME SEASON
OCTOBER 12 & 13, 2018

BENEFIT GALA & PERFORMANCE
OCTOBER 15, 2018

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE
Justice Lee McConahea

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR
Mary Dugan

ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK
Armen Agaian, Elisa Angeli, Jake Bennett, Avidan Brown, Angela Chiang,
Jennifer Gruver, Tyrrell Gene, Line Haddad, Jessica Huot, Valerie Levine,
Liz Schmidt, Tara Nicole Stamm, Conor Wagar, and Sally Jeanne Watkins

SCHOOL FIGURES
Kate Mangiardi

ITNY JUNIOR ENSEMBLE
Jennie Berlin, Ciara Flaherty, Misora Ooka,
Umika Ooka, Electra Scheiner, and Milly Wasserman

GUEST ARTIST
Elladj Baldé

LIGHTING DIRECTOR
Chris Lipari,
Lipari Production Group

COSTUME ATTENDANTS
Lisa Bradshaw
and Laura Moore

SOUND OPERATOR
Deborah Martin

STAGE MANAGER
Armelle Harper
and Allison Hohman



**CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE**

2018 HOME SEASON

(Program subject to change)

ABSURD FIGURES

Performed by Kate Mangiardi

Poem read from "Serpentine Loop" by Elee Kraljii Gardiner

A Moira North and Elee Kraljii Gardiner collaboration

REVERIE

**Performed by Jennie Berlin, Ciara Flaherty, Misora Ooka,
Umika Ooka, Electra Scheiner, and Milly Wasserman**

Composed by Claude Debussy

Choreography by Elisa Angeli

Made possible in part by the generous support of Julie Glennon

FELLINI SKATES

**Performed by Elisa Angeli, Jake Bennett, Avidan Brown, Angela Chiang, Tyrrell Gene,
Jennifer Gruver, Jessica Huot, Tara Nicole Stamm, Conor Wagar, and Sally Jeanne Watkins**

Music by Nino Rota

Choreography by Elisa Angeli

Costumes by Laura Moore

ARCTIC MEMORY

Performed by Valerie Levine

Choreography by Jody Sperling

Composed by Brooks Williams and Beo Morales

Costume by Mary Jo Mecca

Made possible with funding by Gertrude Vanderbilt Endowment

This version of "Arctic Memory" is adapted from material Sperling developed during a 43-day polar science mission to the Arctic. While there, as the first and to-date only choreographer-in-residence aboard a US Coast Guard icebreaker, Sperling danced on sea ice and made the short film "Ice Floe," winner of a Creative Climate Award. The work draws inspiration from modern-dance pioneer Loïe Fuller (1862-1928). The costume is a long cape, hand-painted with designs suggestive of Arctic pack ice.

UPTOWN FUNK

Performed by Elladj Baldé

Sung by: Bruno Mars

Choreography by Elladj Baldé

2:1

Performed by Tara Nicole Stamm, Line Haddad, and Tyrrell Gene

Choreography by David Liu

Music: Orchestral Suite No. 3 In D Major by Yo-Yo Ma & Bobby McFerrin

Costumes by Katherine McDowell

The relationship between what one imagines if there were two.

BACH TO BACH

Performed by Armen Agaian

Music: Selections from Unaccompanied Cello Suite No. 4 In E-Flat Major by Bach

Performed by Yo-Yo Ma

Choreography by Joel Dear

TWIST TIMES TWO

Performed by Elisa Angeli & Jake Bennett and Jessica Huot & Conor Wagar

Music by Chemical Brothers

Choreography by David Parsons

HELIUM

Performed by Sally Jeanne Watkins

Music by Sia

Concept and Choreography by Sally Jeanne Watkins in collaboration with Tara Nicole Stamm

THE SOUND OF SILENCE

Performed by Elladj Baldé

Music by Disturbed

Choreography by Julie Marcotte

WHEN ATOMS EMBRACE

Performed by Liz Schmidt

Music by Arvo Pärt – “Spiegel and Spiegel”

Choreography by Lorna Brown

“Lay me in a field of wild flowers, let the scent perfume the hours.

When The Atoms embrace and time changes pace, I find my magical powers.”

LOVE RUNS OUT

**Performed by Elisa Angeli, Jake Bennett, Angela Chiang, Tyrrell Gene, Jennifer Gruver,
Jessica Huot, Tara Nicole Stamm, Conor Wagar, and Sally Jeanne Watkins**

Music by One Republic

Choreography by Elisa Angeli

FINALE

ABOUT THE EXECUTIVE STAFF

MOIRA NORTH (Founder/Artistic Director) Twice named one of the 25 Most Influential Names in Figure Skating by International Figure Skating Magazine, Moira North has been a driving force in the development of figure skating as a performing art. Since founding Ice Theatre of New York in 1984, she has commissioned renowned dance choreographers to make new works for the company while nurturing and developing choreographers from the world of ice. She has also been a catalyst in the development of other artistic ice dance companies in both Canada and the United States. Moira graduated in Theatre and English from the University of British Columbia and also spent a year at the University of Strasbourg; her dance education included studying with Martha Graham, Jazz Dance/the Lynn Simonson technique, a workshop residency with Sankai Juko (butoh dancers), African dance with Joniba, and Contact Improv training with Steve Paxton. She toured with Peggy Fleming and the Ice Follies, and toured internationally as well. Moira and partner Patrick Dean skated Ice Theatre of New York's first work, "Heaven and Hell," a collaboration with Belgian dance choreographer Marc Bogaerts, which won them first place in Free Dance at the World Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. In her subsequent work with Ice Theatre of New York, Moira has continued to integrate contemporary dance and performance art into the repertoire of ice choreography.

JIRINA RIBBENS (Executive Director) joined the ITNY staff in December 2004, after serving on the board since the founding of the company. Over the past 14 years Jirina has overseen ITNY's growth, such as the doubling of ITNY's operations budget, the expansion of its outreach programming for public school children, and ITNY's entry into new media, including a collaboration with Improv Everywhere, which received over 3.2 million views on You Tube. Prior to her work with ITNY, Jirina worked in a variety of positions in the entertainment and sports industries. During her time at Candid Productions she produced and managed events with two-time Olympic Champion Dick Button. She also worked as an Olympic sports consultant and producer for the networks at nine Olympic Games. In 2002 she received a Sports Emmy for Outstanding Live Sports Special, as Associate Producer for NBC for the Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games.

ELISA ANGELI (Ensemble Director/Choreographer) is an Italian ice dancer with recognition from the Italian Federation for Ice Skating, who studied Ballet with Ludmilla Vlassova (Bolshoi) and Giovanna Franzosi in Milan, and with Christine Wright at the Gibney Dance Center. She also studied Modern and Contemporary Dance at the Open Dance Center, New York, and at the Music, Art and Shows School, Milan. She studied Aerial Silks at the Streb Lab and at the Trapeze School in New York. Elisa had several years of contortion and extreme flexibility classes with J. Noan and O. Karmansky. Her expertise as a circus arts specialist allows Elisa to bring a unique element of excitement when skating as a principal performer and aerialist with ITNY. In 2009, Elisa participated with Ice Theatre of New York at the Premiere of "Wintuk" by Cirque du Soleil at Madison Square Garden. In Italy, she was an aerialist with the tour "Italian Champions on Ice," with Ghiaccio Spettacolo, and performed in Munich with Spotlight Productions. Elisa has been with ITNY since 2008, and was on ITNY's 2008 tour in France. In 2015 she became ITNY's Ensemble Director. Elisa also works with Cirque-tacular Entertainment as an aerialist (since 2014), with which she performed in the show "The Art of Circus" in September 2016.

JUSTICE LEE McCONNAHEA (Administrative Associate) joined ITNY in February of 2014 after having led a career that spans across film, television and stage. He is best known for his recurring role on Fox's hit comedy, "Glee." Throughout his career he has had roles in such notable television series as "Grey's Anatomy," "True Blood," "How I Met Your Mother," "Revenge," "Modern Family" and "90210." He's also lent his talent to such Feature Films as "The Muppets," "Rock of Ages," "The Dark Knight Rises," "Divorce Invitation" and others. In addition to his experience in Film and Television he has worked as an Associate Publicist with Levine Communications, whose clients included Paul Stanley, Diamond Dallas Page, Pia Zadora and the late Donna Summer.

MARY DUGAN (Grant Writer) joined ITNY in December 2016 after a career in grant writing both for the Arts and for advocacy organizations, as well as serving nine years as a grant maker for the Jarvie Commonweal Service, which helped the elderly maintain their quality of life. In the Arts, she won grants for Harmonie Ensemble/New York and the Dwana Smallwood Performing Arts Center, while also having a long history winning grants for organizations advocating for immigrants, reproductive rights, formerly incarcerated women and public programs combatting poverty.

CHRIS LIPARI (Lighting Director) began his professional career as a dancer and figure skater, performing at Radio City Music Hall and in Las Vegas, Australia, Italy, Portugal, Tokyo and Saudi Arabia. After finishing a year-long international tour of the roller-skating spectacle "Starlight Express," Chris utilized his performing talents, business acumen and innate creativity to launch a career as a special events producer. Now, with more than 20 years of production and event experience in the corporate and non-profit sectors, he has helmed his own firm for the past 14 years. Skating and lighting design are both passions and he is pleased to once again light the unique works of Ice theatre of New York. Chris still enjoys skating and is a three-time Gay Games ice dance gold medalist. www.lpgny.com

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHERS

LORNA BROWN (Choreographer) A British and World Professional Champion and World and Olympic coach. Lorna was principal performer in numerous ice shows all over the world including "John Curry's Ice Dancing" on Broadway, and "Theatre of Skating" at the London Palladium. She has appeared in TV specials, touring Galas and commercials worldwide. She has studied contemporary dance and worked with some of the World's leading choreographers and has coached and choreographed for over 50 National Champions including 2 World Professional Champions. Choreographing most recently for Emanuel Sandhu, (3-time Canadian Champion), Kevin Van Der Perren (Belgium Champion, 2-time European medalist, and 2011 Silver medalist in Bratislava and Skate America) and Jenna McCorkell (10-time British Champion).

Lorna has given workshops on all aspects of figure skating, at National and International seminars for both skaters and coaches. She has produced and directed her own International Skating School in the UK called "Skate of the Art" with the world-famous Rafael Artunian. She specializes in the latest physics and aerodynamics in skating techniques and focuses a great deal on expression and style in her choreography and has written several articles for skating magazines on these subjects. She moved to the USA several years ago and has been awarded the PSA Level 7 ranking and holds a BA in sports science.

JOEL DEAR (Choreographer) began skating in elementary school when a section of the school playground flooded and froze over. He quickly fell in love with skating. Joel is a two-time US National Medalist and a four-time US Figure Skating team member. In addition to skating, Joel works as a professional dancer and aerialist. He has performed in numerous professional ice skating and dance shows around the world. Most recently, he competed on America's Got Talent as a member of "Aerial Ice". Joel is happy to be part of The Ice Theatre of New York fall season as a choreographer. He has been a company member since 2008.

DAVID LIU (Choreographer) Originally from Taiwan, David immigrated to the United States at the age of six, and began formal training in both dance and figure skating by the age of eight. In dance, he attended New York City Ballet's School of American Ballet on full scholarship under the tutelage of Richard Rapp and Andrei Kramarevsky. He was honored at SAB by George Balanchine's selection to undergo further intensive training with the great Stanley Williams as part of a special class for young talented dancers. After finishing his training at SAB, David pursued his skating career and competed at three Olympic Games for his native country, Taiwan. David furthered his extensive studies in dance at the Jose Limon Institute and danced professionally for Carlos Orta's CoreoArte Dance Company as well as H.T. Chen and Dancers. He teaches, choreographs and performs in both skating and dance. David has choreographed programs for skating luminaries such as Brian Boitano, Lu Chen, Midori Ito, Nicole Bobek, Rosalynn Summers, and for major television specials including Kurt Browning's Gotta Skate, Divas on Ice with Katarina Witt, PBS's An Evening with Champions, and NBC's Rockefeller Center Christmas Specials. In 2002, David received a commissioning grant from New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) through Ice Theatre for a collaborative work with choreographer JoAnna Mendl Shaw. Liu has also choreographed for dance companies such as City Contemporary Dance Company, Hong Kong Ballet, and Singapore Dance Theatre. Francis Mason of WQRX Radio called David, "Nijinsky on ice."

DAVID PARSONS (Choreographer) was a kid from Kansas City whose athletic talents surfaced early. A gymnast, wrestler, and a wild guy on the trampoline, his mother enrolled him in a summer dance program at Sunset Hill Academy, an affiliation of Missouri Dance Theater, at age 9. At MDT, Parsons met Christopher Gillis, a longtime Paul Taylor dancer, who encouraged him to come to New York City. At 17, he came to New York on a scholarship to the Alvin Ailey School. Afterwards he understudied with the Paul Taylor Dance Company, joining the company as a principal dancer, for eight years. During summers, he toured with MOMIX and appeared with Mikhail Baryshnikov and Mark Morris in the first White Oak Dance tour. After leaving the Taylor company, Parsons was a guest artist with New York City Ballet for four years. He set work on the Taylor Company, the National Ballet of Canada, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Batsheva Dance Company, and the Paris Opera Ballet, to launch his choreographic career. Parsons created more than 75 works for Parsons Dance, receiving commissions from American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the American Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow, the Spoleto Festival, and Het Muziek theater in Amsterdam, among many others. He has done such diverse work as choreographing Aida at Arena di Verona, producing and co-choreographing Maria de Buenos Aires at the Skirball Center, as well as creating the choreography for Fool's Fire, a 1992 film directed by Julie Taymor. Choreographing and directing the dance elements for Times Square 2000, the 24-hour festivities in Times Square celebrating the turn of the Millennium, was a particular thrill. Since then, Parsons has participated in many projects, such as choreographing A Knight's Tale, a new

musical theater work directed by John Caird. In 2018, he received the Capezio Award, one of the most prestigious awards in dance.

JODY SPERLING (Choreographer) A dancer-choreographer from New York City, Jody Sperling is the Founder and Artistic Director of Time Lapse Dance. She has created 40+ works, including many furthering the legacy of modern dance pioneer Loie Fuller (1862–1928). Considered the preeminent Fuller stylist, Sperling has expanded the genre into the 21st century, deploying it in the context of contemporary performance forms. She has been nominated for a 2017 World Choreography Award for her work on the French feature film *The Dancer* (which premiered at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival), inspired by Fuller’s life. Years of working in Fuller’s idiom, which involves kinesphere-expanding costumes, has influenced Sperling’s awareness of the body’s relationship with the larger environment. In 2014, she participated in a polar science mission to the Arctic as the first, and to date only, choreographer-in-residence aboard a U.S. Coast Guard icebreaker. During the expedition, she danced on Arctic sea ice and made the short dance film “Ice Floe,” winner of a Creative Climate Award. Sperling’s current projects focus on using visual-kinetic narratives to connect choreography and climate science.

ABOUT THE COLLABORATORS

ELEE KRALJII GARDINER (Writer & Editor) is the author of the book of poems *serpentine loop* (Anvil Press), one of 2016’s “most anticipated spring releases” and named to three “Best Of” lists of the year in Canada. She is the co-editor with John Asfour of *V6A: Writing from Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2012), which was shortlisted for the 2012 City of Vancouver Book Award, and her second book of poems, *Tunica Intima* (forthcoming 2018), has already been shortlisted for the Kroetsch Award for Innovative Poetry. She founded Thursdays Writing Collective, a non-profit organization of more than 150 writers in Vancouver, and she is the editor and publisher of eight of its anthologies. Elee is the daughter of Olympic gold and silver medalist Dr. Tenley Albright and is a dual US/Canadian citizen.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

ARMEN AGAIAN (Performer) has been ice skating since 2002. Armen was a 5-time National Champion in Georgia and participated in the Junior World Championships three times. He has also participated in the 2013 Youth Olympic Games, the Junior Grand Prix (2012-2015) and 2016 European Championships. Armen is now a skating coach in New York and is thrilled to be a part of Ice Theatre of New York.

ELLADJ BALDÉ (Guest Artist) is a Competitive skater and performer from Quebec, Canada and a frequent guest performer with ITNY. He was born November 9, 1990 in Moscow to a Russian mother and a Guinean father, Ibrahim, from the village of Tombon, near Labé. His elder sister, Djulde, died from leukemia. After a year in Bonn, Germany during his sister’s treatment, the family moved to Canada in 1992. Elladj was introduced to skating at the age of seven by his mother. Though at first, he would hide his skates in an attempt to avoid practice, he began to love skating

when he was ten. He is a 7-time Canadian National Senior Competitor, 2008 Canadian Junior Champion, and was the winner of the 2015 International Nebelhorn Trophy and received a standing ovation after his recent performance at the 2018 Canadian Nationals.

JAKE BENNETT (Performer) is a British Pairs skater, who has recently relocated from the UK to New York City. He is a three times National pairs champion and competed at the Junior World Championships. After a shoulder injury and subsequent operation, Jake turned his passion for skating towards coaching which he has been doing full time for over a decade. He has coached skaters from first steps to ISU international level and hopes to continue his success in the US. He is delighted to perform with ITNY.

AVIDAN BROWN (Performer) is a former world and international competitor in Ice Dance. Representing Azerbaijan with his partner, Anastasia Galieta, he has competed at various challenger series and Olympic qualifying events, as well as the 2017 World Figure Skating Championships. He has also represented Ukraine, Great Britain, and Israel on the international level at various Grand Prix and World events. A New York native, he left New York at 15 to pursue skating full time and has trained under the tutelage of Olympic Champions and competitors such as Nataliya Linichuk, Gennadiy Karponosov, Angelika Krylova, and Pasquale Camerlengo. Now that he has completed his 17-year career in competitive Ice Dance; Avidan is coaching part time and studying psychology at Columbia University with the hopes of working closely with athletes in the future. He is so excited to have joined the cast of ITNY and looks forward to performing for the first time in almost two years.

ANGELA CHIANG (Performer) grew up in New Jersey but now calls New York City home. Her passion for figure skating started as soon as she stepped on the ice at the age of four. Angela credits her accomplishments in skating to her mother and grandmother's encouragement. Both dreamt of becoming graceful figure skaters. After retiring from her competitive career in 2000, Angela joined ITNY as a young apprentice and became a full-fledged cast member on and off with the company since 2003. She has found skating with ITNY to be truly instrumental in developing her artistry and is thrilled to perform with the cast this season! Angela is a USFS double gold medalist, a graduate of NYU with a B.A. in Journalism and Metropolitan Studies, a former instructor for the Figure Skating in Harlem program, a former member of the NHL's New York Rangers City Skaters squad and continues to devote herself to her students and her love of coaching at Chelsea Piers for the past seventeen years.

TYRRELL GENE (Performer) started dancing at the age of three in his hometown of Wenatchee, Washington. Dance was a form of physical therapy for Gene as he recovered from a stroke inducing paralysis on his left side. His love for dance is what led him to competitive figure skating. Trained as an ice dancer, he became a 5-time national competitor. He continued his cross training of dance and expanded into areas of jazz, ballet, modern and ballroom. Gene has been with Ice Theatre of New York since 2001, performing in the 2008 and 2009 French tours. In the summer he is coaching and performing in Sun Valley, Idaho. This fall he is happy to be back again living in New York City and working with ITNY!

JENNIFER GRUVER (Performer) fell in love with the sport of figure skating at the age of six and with the love and support of her family, coaches, and directors that love has not wavered in her 22 years of skating. A Colorado native, Jennifer spent 16 years competing in the Southwestern

Region before following her dreams of becoming a professional performer. After graduating from the University of Colorado with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Anthropology, Jennifer spent 5 years traveling the world with Disney On Ice. She wrapped up her touring career in December 2016 to pursue more of her dreams in New York City. In the short time she has lived in the city, she finds herself coaching, choreographing and performing more than ever. This is her second season as an Ice Theatre of New York Ensemble member

LINE HADDAD (Performer) is a World and Olympic pair skater and was the youngest athlete to compete at the Olympics at Albertville. Former student of Oleg Vassiliev, she is two-time French National Champion, one-time Israeli National Champion. As a dancer, she graduated from the Paris Conservatoire in ballet and has also trained and performed in modern dance and argentine tango (NY City Center, Google, NY Live Arts, and The Madison Theatre). Line is an international choreographer and has worked for many years for the French Ice Skating Federation. She choreographed for various international skaters, among them Vanessa James/Morgan Cipres, Lola Esbrat/Andrei Novoselov & Laurine Lecavalier. She also coached skaters at ISU Grand Prix events (Skate America, Trophée de France). After touring with Philippe Candeloro and the French team, she joined the ITNY as a performer then as a choreographer. She collaborated with choreographers such as David Parsons, Doug Webster, and David Liu. She was also featured in the NYTimes, Fox News, NBC, and with ITNY in "Colors of Winter" starring Nancy Kerrigan. Her most recent choreographies includes Milongon, performed at Rockefeller Center with ice dancer Brent Bommentre and composition by world-renowned bandoneon player JP Jofre, and contemporary piece 11h11 which was performed at the ITNY Home season honoring Tai Babilonia and Randy Gardner. Academically, she received her Master of Arts in translation and linguistics in Paris, Majoring in French, English, and Spanish.

JESSICA HUOT (Performer) is the Executive Director of Figure Skating at Sky Rink Chelsea Piers, where she also gives private skating lessons. Jessica is a six-time Finnish National Ice Dance Champion and USFS quadruple gold medalist. She and her ice dance partner competed in the World and European Figure Skating Championships in 2002-2004 as well as the Junior and Senior Grand Prix competition circuits from 1999-2003. Jessica received her Bachelor of Science in 2006 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, majoring in Brain and Cognitive Sciences. She went on to earn her Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from New York University in 2012. In addition to teaching skating, she gives private piano lessons in the NYC area. She has performed as a principal dancer for ITNY since 2010.

VALERIE LEVINE (Performer) has been dancing tap, jazz and ballet since she was 4 years of age and started roller-skating at that time. After begging her parents for figure skating lessons, she started training at 11. She auditioned for Disney On Ice during high school and was accepted but decided to get her bachelor's degree in college first. She went on to get her Senior Ladies Moves and Pre-golds in ice dance by 19 and skated as an ice girl for the NHL teams the New York Rangers and the New York Islanders during those years. She furthered her dance knowledge while in college getting her Bachelor's Degree in Product Management Textiles from the Fashion Institute of Technology. She minored in dance and trained at the Broadway Dance Center in many dance styles, which led her to her current career as a professional belly dancer, ballroom dancer, Brazilian samba dancer, fire performer and the like. Valerie has collaborated on ITNY events for the past decade. You can find out more about Valerie Levine on her website: Valerinadance.com

KATE MANGIARDI (Performer) is the Skating Director at World Ice Arena and a USFSA gold medalist in Moves in the Field. She has been coaching throughout the tristate area for the past 15 years and enjoys working with all levels. After receiving her Bachelor of Arts from Vassar and MFA in painting from RISD, she has been exhibiting her work in various museums and galleries. In 2009, Mangiardi was awarded the W.K. Rose Fellowship in the Creative Arts. Recently, Kate has begun to merge her experience as a skater into her art through exploring the connection between the etching a skater leaves behind on the ice and creation of a drawing. Kate is excited and grateful for the opportunity to explore this direction in her work with ITNY.

LIZ SCHMIDT (Performer) Elizabeth is a Japanese/German American skater from Chicago, IL, currently residing in San Francisco, CA. She is a U.S. Figure Skating Double Gold medalist in Free-style and Moves in the Field, and a Silver medalist in Ice Dancing. Luscious edges, artistic dynamic movement, and traditional ice dancing informs her skating and professional career which began in 2013 at the age of 18, performing internationally in Germany and across the US. She received her Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Painting from the San Francisco Art Institute in 2018, and is exhibiting work across the Bay Area. This is her debut performance with ITNY.

TARA NICOLE STAMM (Performer) is an International Choreographer/National Coach, Dancer, and Movement Consultant. She has a Bachelor in Dance from the University of Wisconsin, and a Master's in Dance/Movement Therapy from Columbia College-Chicago. She is a 2-time USFS Gold Medalist in Ice Dance and Moves in the Field. She has been integrating her knowledge of Laban Movement Analysis with the sport of figure skating through SOMA, techniques specializing in how the body moves through time, weight and space to enhance the full body potential on the ice. She is an IJS components coach—specializing in all 5 categories—and works closely with athletes to educate, develop and improve their performance to maximize their score. She also has a passion for working with skaters who have special needs through Skating on the Spectrum. Skating on the Spectrum's intention is to hone in on emotional, behavioral, and communication skills with children on the Autistic Spectrum while teaching them how to skate. It's currently in development, and should launch this coming year. She joined ITNY in 2015. Tara Nicole is a member of USFS, PSA, and the American Dance Therapy Association

CONOR WAGAR (Performer) first became interested in skating at the age of 10, when he was taken to a Disney on Ice show. Amazed by the performers, he begged his parents to sign him up for lessons. Under the guidance of his coach, Doris Papenfuss, he competed at Junior Nationals with only two years of skating under his belt. Conor went on to compete at Eastern Sectionals and was an alternate for US Nationals. He also became a triple gold-medalist in Moves in the Field, Freestyle, and Ice Dance. Towards the end of his amateur career he went on to join the touring company of Disney on Ice and since 2015 he has performed with the talented, amazing cast of ice performers in ITNY.

SALLY JEANNE WATKINS (Performer) is a U.S. Figure Skating triple gold medalist and holds an Intercollegiate National Senior Ladies title. While Sally enjoys skating professionally, she also loves coaching and exploring the aerial arts. She earned her Bachelors in Engineering-Physics and Chemistry from Miami University and her Masters in Environmental Engineering from NYU. Originally from Seattle, Washington, she currently lives in New York City. Sally has been performing with ITNY since 2012.

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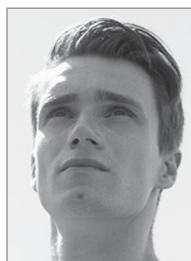
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